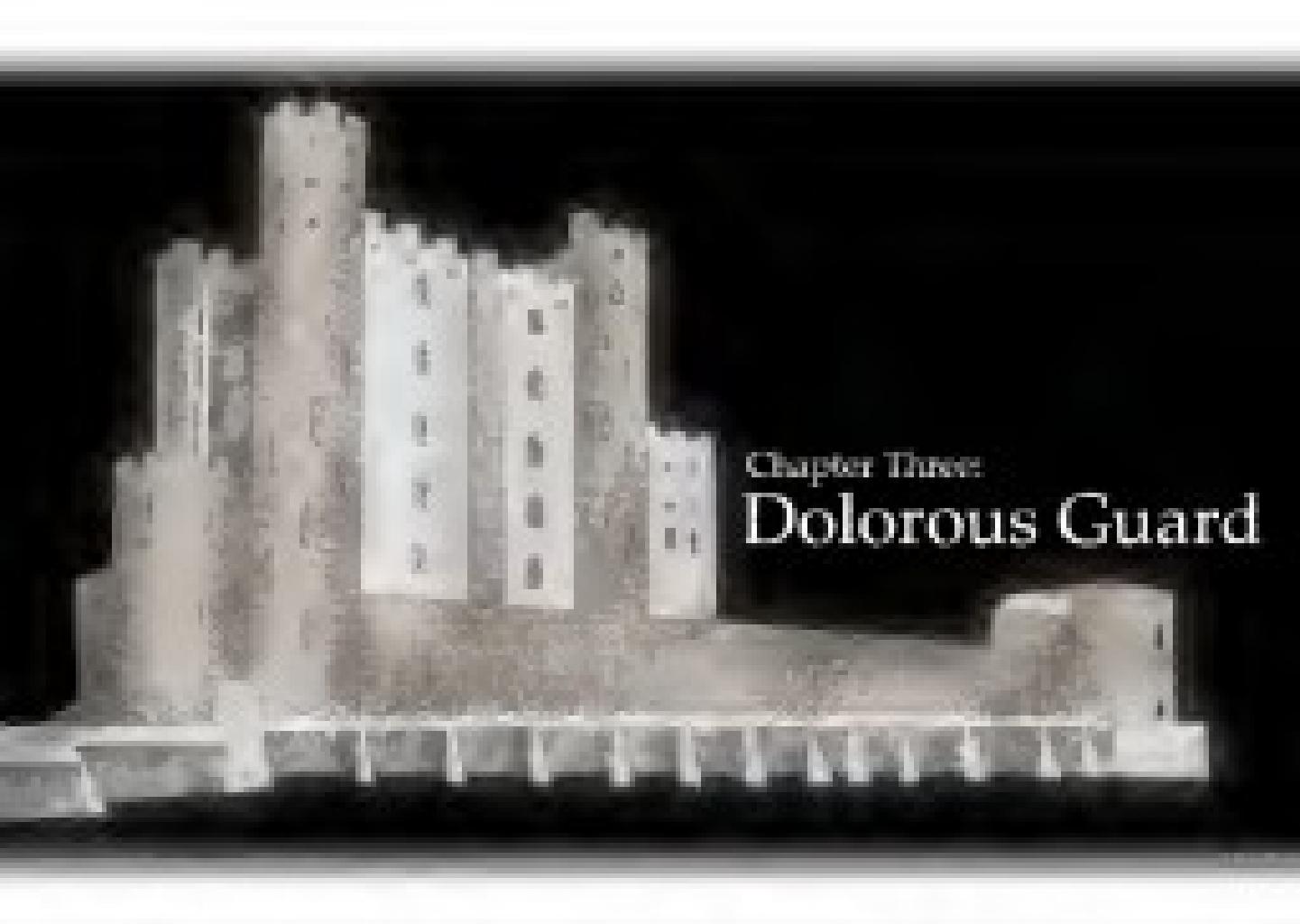
After his mother calls his paternity into question, Galahad - dubiously himself because he is a "Lancred" ("the servant" in old French) - hides as a stableboy in his uncle's castle 'Camelot' for nearly two years. When a beautiful unnamed lady takes hold of his heart, he enters the Tournay of St John to learn her name on his seventeenth birthday. There, King Pellumet of Lochmire accidentally kills King Lot of Lethem thus sparking the blood feud between the two families. When Galahad emerges as the victor of the tourney, he is devastated to learn that his beloved lady is his aunt, Queen Guinevere of Logres. In a burst of protocol, he presents her with the crown of flowers she the Queen of Love and Beauty.



Chapter Three:
Dolorous Guard





SWING

He has
nothing to
do with this.

Push

Ahhh



My lady, I-L...
can't do this
anymore.



Hmm?

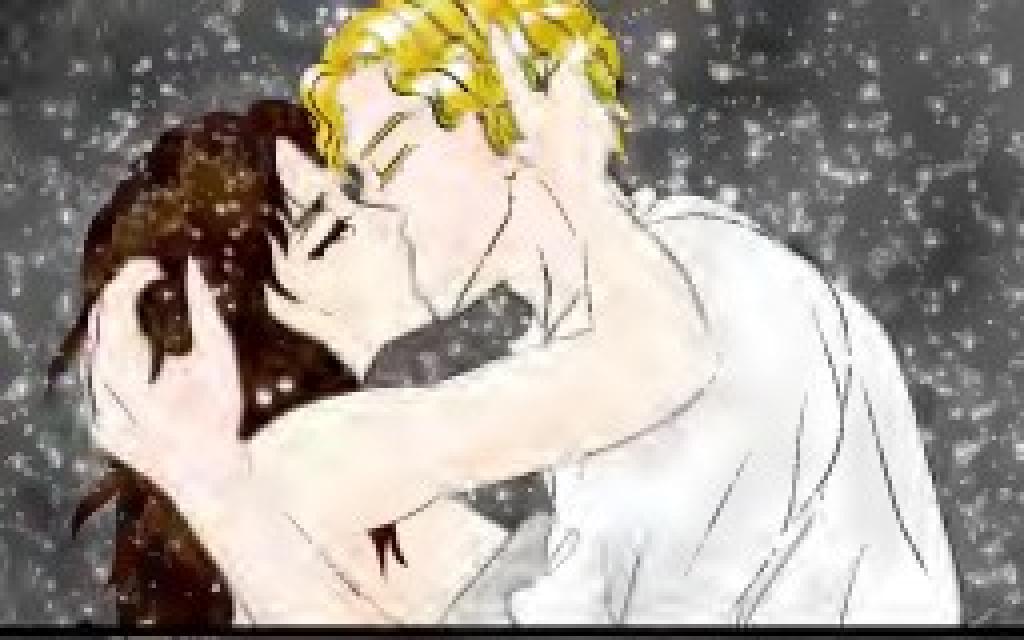
Is that
so?

Morgause, Queen Dowager
of Lothian, recently widowed,
eldest half sister of the
High King Arthur



Have I grown
so much older
in your eyes?







Even if it
was not
proper,



Seeing her with
his uncle made
his insides writh
like poisonous
snakes.



He had to
leave.



Get out of
my way, you
insolent churl!



I will see the
High King
now!





My lady,
good cheer.
What brings
you to Camelot,
so far from
your lands?



I have urgent
need for one of
your knights,
my lord King.



As you know,
my father the Duke
has left all his lands
to me, his only child.



The King of Northumbria,
desirous to obtain the Nohaut
lands, seeks to wed me by force.



Having thrice refused
his advances, he threatens
my borders unless I find a
champion to defeat his
champion in single combat.



As you are my
king, I request the
aid of one of your
knights-



I'll go!



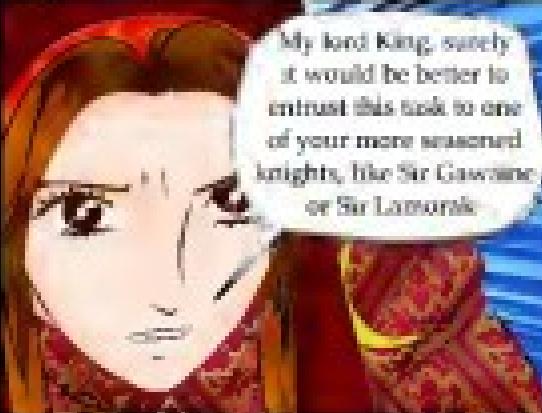
My lord King,
please grant me
the undertaking
of this task.



What? You
want to leave
again? You've
barely been here.



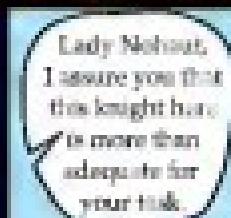
My lord, take care
not to refuse a
reasonable request.



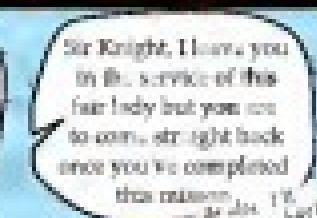
My lord King, surely
it would be better to
entrust this task to one
of your more seasoned
knights, like Sir Gwaine
or Sir Lancelot.



You mean, you'll
leave whether or
not I agree, right?



Lady Nohous,
I assure you that
this knight has
is more than
adequate for
your task.



Sir Knight, I have you
in the service of this
fair lady but you are
to come straight back
once you've completed
this mission.



Play nicely
now, kids.

You, do you have a name?

I go by Lancelot du Lac.

I'm doomed.

It's a perfectly good name. I'll prove to you all someday.

I am stuck with a name
brought over with a
ridiculous mother.

My lady, we did tell him you are busy but he refuses to take no for an answer...

Is the boy insane?
Or just foolish?

Very well, admit him.
But summon Sir Lamorak first as a safeguard.



This is the madman
my lady the Queen
spoke so lowly of?

How handsome and
elegant and altogether
well-made he is!

And he seems to
be so very valiant!

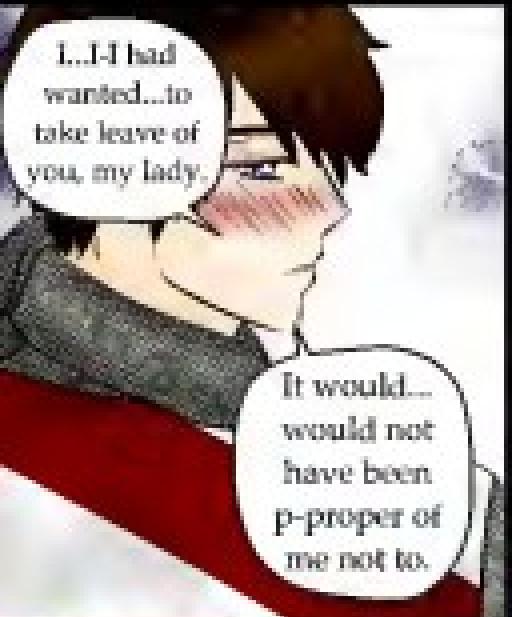


He was so very beautiful it was hard not to be a little smitten.



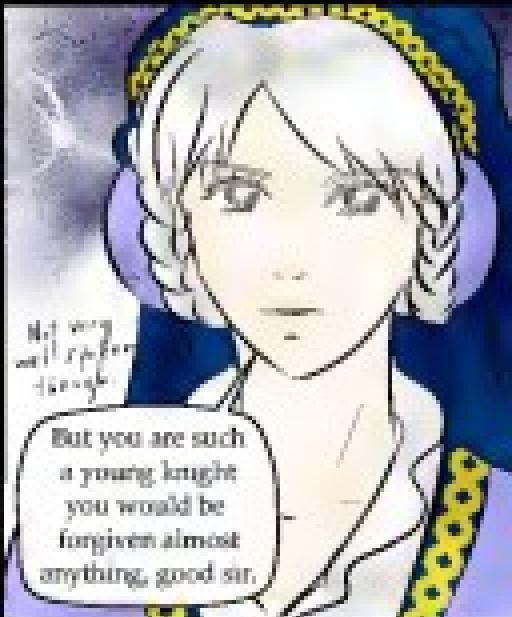
You may rise, Sir Knight.

What is it that you want of me?



I...I had wanted...to take leave of you, my lady.

It would...would not have been p-proper of me not to.



But you are such a young knight you would be forgiven almost anything, good sir.



You must then forgive me, my lady- I am not quite a knight, for your lord has not gird on my sword.

If one of you
would please
go forth this
morning-morn?



Stand, Sir
Knight: go
and be valiant."

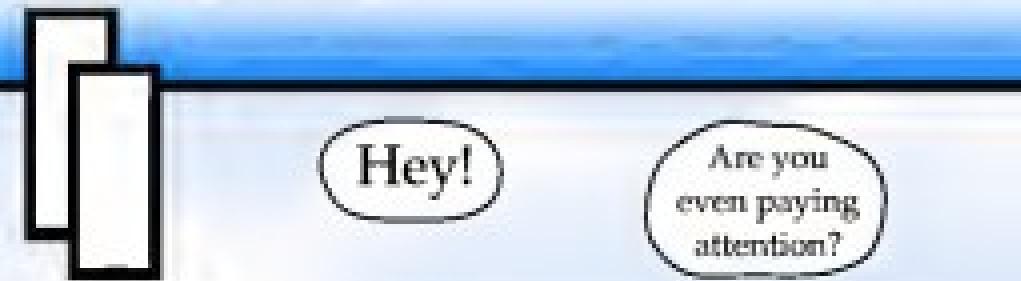
The present of the golden sword is full
of importunity of the Queen's voice
encouraging and bade him straight
to be brought by the way to the
Court. In like manner always
known as the Queen's Knight and
so he straight away along
to the Queen's mornings.



My lady, I...I
thank you.

If you permit, I should
like... to consider myself
your knight, wherever
I may be.

Certainly, if it
pleases you.





M Chevalier Mesfais

The Knight Who Stunned
Chapter 3: Delorous Guard
(to be continued)

